

18. (NEW) The appliance as claimed in claim 12, wherein the adjoining wall part is the base plate.

REMARKS

The previous Claims 1-11 of the Application have been canceled. New Claims 12-18 have been added. Claim 12, the sole independent claim in this Application, defines an electrical or electronic appliance comprising a housing with wall parts made from plastic and metal. A thermally conductive mat is inserted between a heat source and an adjoining wall part of the housing which is made of metal. The mat has a base body of simple sheet-like geometry, an underside of the base body being in contact with the outer metal wall of the appliance and a top side of the base body being in contact with the heat source inside the appliance. The mat consists homogeneously of electrically insulating modified hydrocarbon resin.

Previous Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunze Folien internet site www.heatmanagement.com product description in view of Daszkowski. Previous Claims 8-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. in view of Kunze Folien internet site www.heatmanagement.com product description.

The Smith reference discloses a heat sink assembly (FIG. 3) with a relatively complicated structure. See, in particular, column 1, last paragraph. In more detail, the heat sink of Smith requires six parts: the metallic heat transfer strip 36, the silicon heat sink block 46, the radiant shield sheet 44, the bottom layer of thermally conductive adhesive material 50, the metal heat sink sheet 42 and the upper layer of thermally conductive adhesive material 48. Of course this six part structure is inhomogeneous and the parts are only in slight contact. See, in particular, column 3, lines 42-60. Thus heat conductivity can't be as effective as for a one part structure as claimed, which is made of homogeneous material without interruption. The Kunze Folien reference discloses silicon materials. Applicant respectfully submits that silicon materials have been found to outgas under high temperature load. This outgassing hampers the reliable function of the sensitive electronic components.

Applicant respectfully submits that the references cited by the Examiner fail to teach or suggest the present invention. More specifically, the references fail to teach or suggest an electrical or electronic appliance comprising a housing with wall parts made from plastic which includes a thermally conductive mat inserted between a heat source and an adjoining wall part of the housing which is made of metal wherein the mat has a base body of simple sheet-like geometry, an underside of the base body being in contact with the outer metal wall of the appliance and a top side of the base body being in contact with the heat source inside the appliance and wherein the mat consists homogeneously of electrically insulating modified hydrocarbon resin. Absent such teaching or suggestion, the invention as presently defined by independent Claim 12 is deemed fully patentable over the above references.

Dependent Claim 13-18, dependent on independent Claim 12 and thus on subject matter deemed patentable, are similarly viewed. Allowance thereof is also urged.

The Application with Claims 12-18 is deemed in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully urged. Should the Examiner believe that minor differences exist which, if overcome, would pass the Application to allowance and that said differences can be discussed in a phone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlo S. Bessone', written in a cursive style.

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